

REMARKS

This is a response to the Restriction Requirement issued on June 28, 2004 in connection with the above-identified patent application. In the Restriction Requirement, the Examiner requires Applicants to elect either claims 1-20 or claims 21-31 for initial prosecution. As set forth in the Restriction Requirement, claims 1-20 are directed to a feedstock delivery system, claims 21-31 are directed to a fuel processor, and the groups of claims are patentably distinct from one another. By the above amendment to claim 1, Applicants submit that all presently pending claims are directed to fuel processing systems. Accordingly, Applicants elect Group II, which now comprises claims 1-31. Applicants have also amended claims 18-19 in view of the amendment to claim 1, and claim 21 to correct a grammatical error.

The Examiner also requires Applicants to elect between two sets of species, one directed to where heat is applied to the reservoirs, and one directed to how the heat is applied. More specifically, Applicants are required to choose between claims that recite heating the reservoirs from exterior the reservoirs (Species A) and claims that recite heating the reservoirs from interior the reservoirs (Species B). Applicants hereby elect Species A and submit that claims 1-6, and 9-31 read on or are generic to the elected Species. Applicants are also required to elect between claims that are directed to the identified sources of heat, namely a cooling stream from a fuel cell (Species i), an exhaust stream from a fuel

processor (Species ii), an exhaust stream from combustion (Species iii), or an electric resistance heater (Species iv). As an initial matter, Applicants submit that Species ii and iii may (but are not required to) be related, in that the exhaust stream from a fuel processor may be a combustion exhaust stream from the burner or combustion region that heats the fuel processor. Applicants hereby elect Species ii and submit that claims 1-4 and 6-31 read on or are generic to the elected Species.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that all of the issues raised in the Restriction Requirement have been addressed. If there are any remaining issues or if the Examiner has any questions, Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached at the number listed below. Similarly, if the Examiner believes that a telephone interview may be productive in advancing prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David S. D'Ascenzo", is written over a horizontal line.

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